

REMARKS

Claims 12-16 are now present in this application.

The specification and claims 12, 14, 16 and 17 have been amended, and claims 1-11 and 17 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5 and 12-17 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

It is noted that, in view of the cancellation of claims 1 and 5, this portion of the rejection is rendered moot. Also, "heavily doped" has been changed to --doped-- throughout the remaining claims, and claim 16 has been amended to clarify that the dopants of the bottom doped layer are silicon. In view of the foregoing amendments, it is respectfully submitted that all claims particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the instant invention.

Claims 1-5 and 12-16 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Jewell et al., U.S. Patent 5,245,622. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge that the Examiner considers claim 17 to contain allowable subject matter. Without conceding the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejection but simply to expedite prosecution, it is noted that claims 1-5, thereby rendering this portion of the rejection moot, that non-elected claims 6-11 have been cancelled, and that the limitations of objected-to but allowable claim 17 have been incorporated into independent claim 12. Accordingly, independent claim 12 and its dependent claims should now be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 USC 102(b) rejection are respectfully requested.

Favorable reconsideration and an early Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

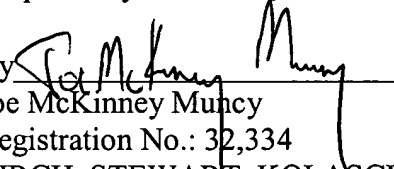
Because the additional prior art cited by the Examiner has been included merely to show the state of the prior art and has not been utilized to reject the claims, no further comments concerning these documents are considered necessary at this time.

In the event that any outstanding matters remain in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: July 21, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Joe McKinney Muncy
Registration No.: 32,334
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
8110 Gatehouse Road
Suite 100 East
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000
Attorney for Applicant